

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ALGIER 00483 252146Z

14

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 ST-01 OC-05 CCO-00 CAB-05

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 INR-07 NSAE-00

FAA-00 OPR-02 A-01 PC-05 AID-05 PM-04 H-02 L-03

NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 IO-11 /127 W

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R 251030Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3924

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

UNCLS ALGIERS 0483

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OTRA AG MO

SUBJECT: AIR TRAVEL BETWEEN ALGERIA AND MOROCCO

1. LOCAL TICKET AGENTS TELL US IT HAS BECOME
VERY DIFFICULT FOR PASSENGERS ORIGINATING THEIR TRAVEL IN
ALGIERS TO FLY TO CASABLANCA. BOTH AIR ALGERIE AND ROYAL AIR
MAROC HAVE SUSPENDED SERVICE BETWEEN TWO CITIES. ALSO,
APPARENTLY IN RESPONSE TO LOCAL INSTRUCTION, AGENTS OF LIBYAN,
SYRIAN AND DAUDI AIRLINES HAVE STOPPED SELLING TICKETS LOCALLY
FOR CASABLANCA. DECISION AS TO WHETHER PASSENGERS ALREADY
HOLDING TICKETS FOR CASABLANCA WILL BE ALLOWED TO BOARD FLIGHTS
AT ALGIERS IS ONE WHICH WILL BE "TAKEN AT AIRPORT." AGENT
FOR TUNIS AIR SAYS HE STILL, AS OF FEB 24, SELLING
TICKETS FOR THAT LINE'S SUNDAY FLIGHT FROM ALGIERS TO CASABLANCA.
AGENT'S STATEMENT CONFLICTS WITH EARLIER REPORT THAT
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TUNIS AIR, TOO, HAD STOPPED SELLING TICKETS LOCALLY.)

2. LIBYAN, SAUDI, SYRIAN AND TUNISIAN FLIGHTS CONTINUE TO TRANSIT ALGIERS EN ROUT TO CASABLANCA AND THROUGH PASSENGERS NOT AFFECTED BY FOREGOING RESTRICTIONS.

3. WE HAVE ALSO BEEN TOLD THAT ALGERIAN GROUND PERSONNEL AT ALGIERS AIRPORT MAKE A PRACTICE OF NOT UNLOADING BAGGAGE OF PASSENGERS WISHING TO DISEMBARK AT ALGIERS FROM THROUGH FLIGHTS FROM CASABLANCA. WE NOT SURE HOW PREVALENT THIS PRACTICE IS.

4. COMMENT: IN LIGHT OF FOREGOING, DEPARTMENT AND INTERESTED POSTS MAY WISH TO ADVISE OFFICIAL TRAVELERS TO TRAVEL BETWEEN ALGIERS AND CASABLANCA VIA SPAIN OR FRANCE. PARKER

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